

REMARKS

Claims 11, 13, 16, 18 and 20 have been examined.

I. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 11 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In view of the amendments to claims 11, however, Applicant submits that the rejection is now moot. Furthermore, Applicant provides the following explanation for clarification. A “print request” means a printing request of job data sent from a job request section to a printing section in a printer (i.e., it is a request to a downstream side in a printing process). On the other hand, the “job request” means a request for demanding job data sent from a job request section in a printer to an external host computer (i.e., it is a request to an upstream side in a printing process).

II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,184,996 to Gase (“Gase”), U.S. Patent No. 6,075,616 to Nishi (“Nishi”) and column 1, lines 48-60 of Gase (“Pipeline Corporation”)

The Examiner has rejected claims 11, 13, 16, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over Gase, Nishi and Pipeline.

A. Claim 11

Applicant submits that claim 11 is patentable over the cited reference. For example, claim 11 recites, “wherein said printing section receives only said specified part of said job data sent from said host computer in response to said print request from said job request section and

prints it, and wherein said specified part of said job data comprises a portion of plural data forming a page of said print job.”

In the rejection of claim 11, the Examiner cites to Nishi, Gase and Pipeline Corporation. Nishi relates to page printers. If the receiving buffer 130 is full, a wait signal, indicating the busy state, is output to a host computer. On the other hand, if the receiving buffer 130 is not full, even after storing of data, a ready signal (alleged job request of claim 11), indicating that the printer can receive the print data DO, is output. Since Nishi fails to disclose the above cited features of claim 11, however, the Examiner cites to the Gase and Pipeline Corporation references. Gase relates to a network printer which includes procedures that enable remote processors to control print jobs queued for printing on a network printer (col. 1, lines 6-10). Pipeline Corporation is directed to a network printer that includes functions which enable a URL of a print job to be received, which can include pages that are hyperlinked to an original document (col. 1, lines 48-60 of Gase).

As set forth in the April 18, 2007 Amendment, Applicant submits that if Nishi, Gase and Pipeline Corporation were combined, the printer would send the ready signal to the host, and then the host would send the data to the printer in page units. The printer would not recognize the quantity of the data that the host sends. On the contrary, in the present invention, the printer adjusts (or controls) the quantity of the data by specifying *a part* of the job data from the host computer, as set forth in claim 11.

On page 12 of the present Office Action, the Examiner alleges that the each print page unit of Gase (Pipeline Corporation) discloses the claimed specified part of job data. Applicant respectfully traverses this assertion. For example, Pipeline Corporation fails to teach or suggest that a *specified part* of the page units (i.e., a portion of plural data that forms each of the page

units) can be accessed. For example, in the non-limiting embodiment on page 9, lines 23 to page 10, line 2 of the present Application, when a first page is printed, the printer can demand only the text data of the first page and data of a font and an image linked to that text data (i.e., a specified part of the first page). Thus, a print image can be generated using a receive buffer of a small capacity. Since Gase fails to teach or suggest such features, Applicant submits that Gase and Pipeline Corporation cited therein fail to cure the deficient teachings of Nishi.

At least based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that claim 11 is patentable over the cited references. Additionally, Applicant notes that on page 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner refers to a “quality” of data. Applicant submits that the arguments in the April 18, 2007, Amendment do not relate to “quality” of data. Rather, the arguments relate to “quantity” of data. For example, since the claim recites that a specified part of the job data can be specified, the actual quantity of data can be controlled. Thus, Applicant submits that the arguments of April 18, 2007, regarding quantity, are fully supported by the claim language.

The above arguments were discussed during an Interview between the Examiner and the undersigned on October 3, 2007. The Examiner indicated that further consideration of the arguments and any amendments would be necessary.

B. Claim 13

Since claim 13 is dependent upon claim 1, Applicant submits that such claim is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

C. Claim 16

Since claim 16 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicant submits that claim 16 is patentable for at least analogous reasons as claim 1.

D. Claims 18 and 20

Since claims 18 and 20 are dependent upon claim 16, Applicant submits that such claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

III. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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Date: October 5, 2007